AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Network security system for detecting security relevant irregularities in a network, comprising:

data sources located on and/ or constituting the network, with means for generating network-security relevant data;

an input module, with input handlers for various protocols to connect to the data sources;

at least one processing module, connected to said input module for access to said data sources, with means for translating said network-security relevant data into quantitative variables;

a supervisory system, with means for presenting processed data to a security system operator; and

an interface module, with means for transferring said quantitative variables from the processing module to the supervisory system.

2. (Currently Amended) Security system as in claim 1, ~~characterized in, that~~ wherein said data sources comprise routers, firewalls, hosts, applications, switches, NIDS, HIDS or any combination thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) Security system as in ~~any of claims 1 or 2,~~ ~~characterized in, that~~ <u>claim 1, wherein</u> the network-security relevant data ~~consists of~~ <u>comprises:</u>

numerical values maintained via increment/decrement operations, rate calculations, pass-through of values or evaluation of mathematical expressions involving multiple values or any combination thereof, and /or

textual values maintained via template matching, text transformation, text translation, and composition of text from templates, text strings from incoming data and numerical values from incoming data or any combination thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) Security system as in ~~any of claims 1 or 3,~~ ~~characterized in, that~~ <u>claim 1, wherein</u> said supervisory system comprises<u>:</u>

means for displaying said variables to ~~an~~ <u>a</u> system operator, and reaction facilities with means for initiating predefined countermeasures.

5. (Currently Amended) Security system as in ~~any of claims 1 to 4,~~ ~~characterized in, that~~ <u>claim 1, wherein</u> the processing modules act on individual incoming data messages and batches of those messages.

6. (Currently Amended) Security system as in ~~any of claims 1 to 5,~~ ~~characterized in, that~~ <u>claim 1, wherein</u> the displaying means display the security status/health information as quantitative trend graphs with historical data storage and zoom in/out function.

7. (Currently Amended) Security system as in ~~any of claims 1 to 6,~~ ~~characterized in, that~~ <u>claim 1, wherein</u> the displaying means display a schematical depiction of the network and device structure and topology.

8. (Currently Amended) Security system as in ~~claims~~ claim 7, ~~characterized in, that~~ wherein the visual elements denote security status by means of coloring and/or numerical and/or textual annotations

9. (Currently Amended) Security system as in ~~any of claims 1 to 8, characterized in, that~~ claim 1, wherein the system further comprises:

storage means for maintaining temporary and persistent records of the results of the processing steps for later in-depth analysis.

10. (Currently Amended) Automation system operator workstation in a network with an automation system, comprising:

means for controlling the processes of the automation system over the network, said controlling means comprising a human machine interface with means for displaying information about the automation system to an automation system operator and means for entering commands for controlling the automation system, said automation system operator workstation being connected to a security system as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the supervisory system is integrated into the automation system controlling means, said status and trend presenting means being included in the information displaying system of the human machine interface, and said countermeasures initiating means being integrated in the commands entering means.